



Dumpsters on a Diet

Action for a Cleaner Tomorrow:

No more organic material in our landfills

Floyd Dinkins

C.A. Taylor Elementary, Lex. 2

Floyd Dinkins “Chicken Man”



Taylor Elementary teacher Floyd Dinkins and third-grader Jordan Boone display a chicken used in science lessons. The class successfully lobbied Cayce City Council to allow residents to raise chickens at home, a step authorized recently.

Our One Goal for today.....

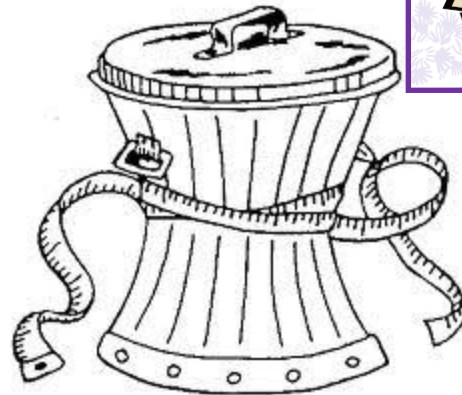
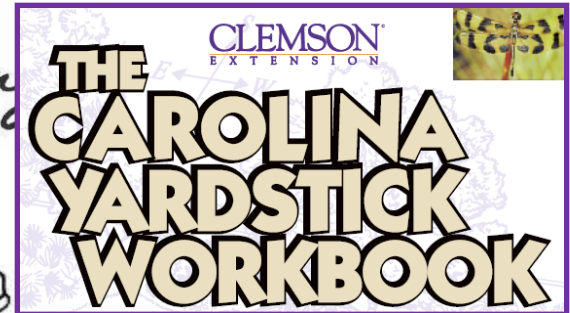
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Nutrisystem®

WeightWatchers®



...to discuss 3 programs to put your waste can on a “diet”.

Why Does “it” Matter?

The Bishopville “mountain” landfill

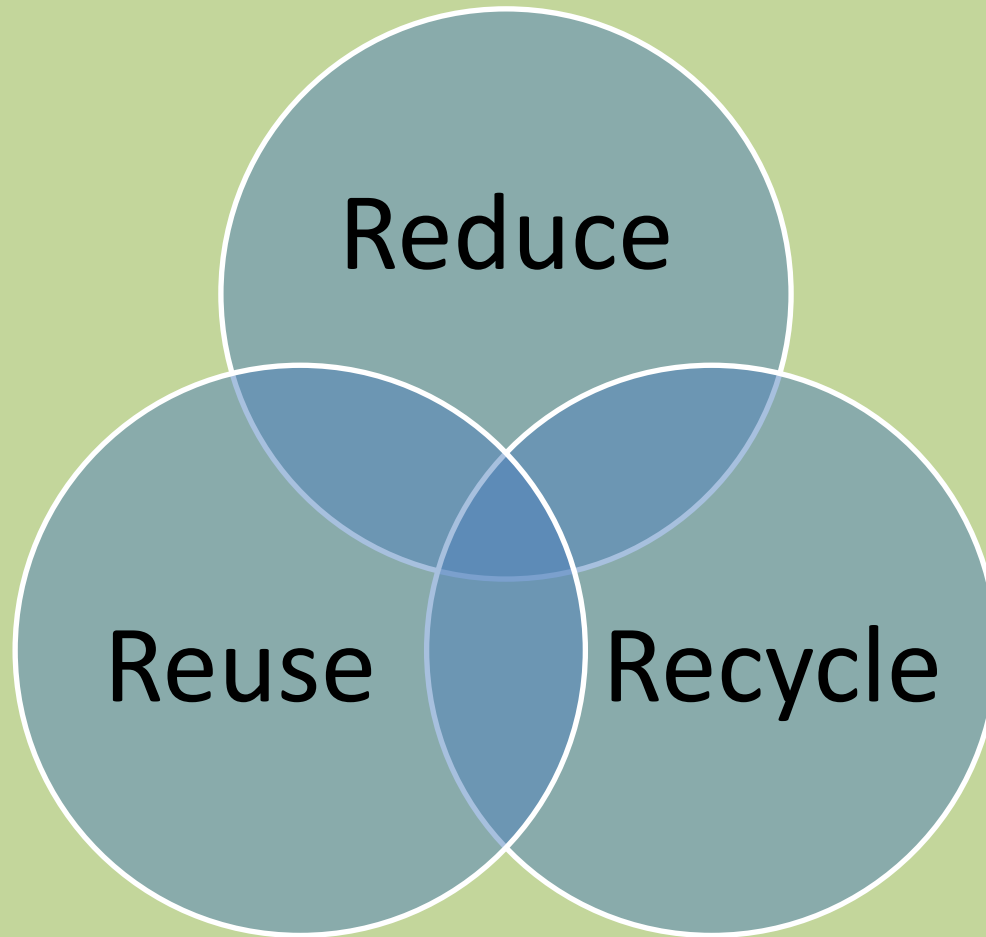


What steps can we take to prevent this from happening?



Reduce
Reuse
Recycle

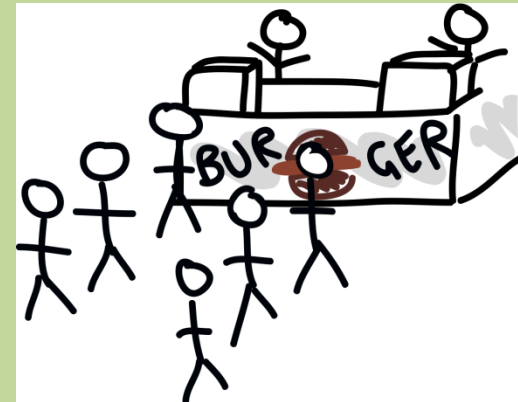
What do these terms mean???



How can we “reduce” food waste?

Reduce

- Encourage meal selection BEFORE meal preparation.
 - *This saves money (food purchases)*
 - *Limits amount of leftover food scraps that will need to be composted*
- ??



How can we “reuse” food waste?

Reuse

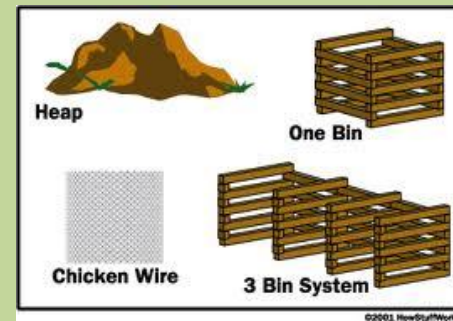
- Work with cafeteria to take home extra fruits and vegetables (bananas make GREAT banana bread)
- If your school allows, provide a table for collecting uneaten food as well as unopened milk and juice containers for other students that may want them.

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How can we “recycle” food scraps?

Recycle

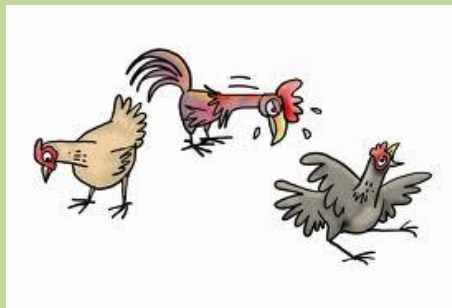
- **Composting!!!!**
- Three means of composting
 - Heap/Bin system



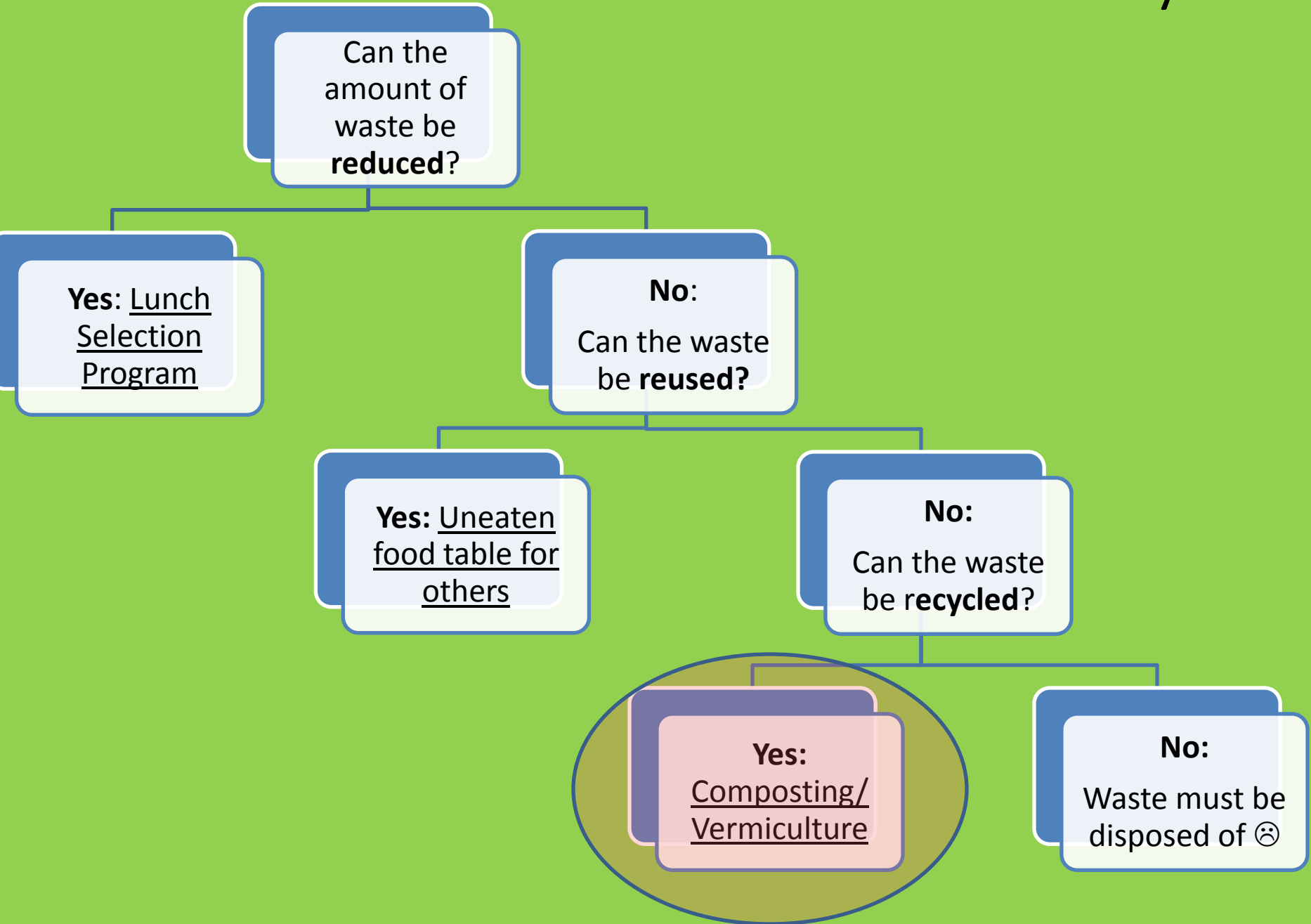
- Vermiculture (worms)



- Chickens!!!



School Food Waste: Reduce Reuse Recycle



DHEC's Composting Guide

What can and cannot be composted?

These materials CAN BE COMPOSTED at school ...

Only organic material generated on campus may be composted.

- **"Greens"** (high-nitrogen material) – Fruit and vegetable scraps, bakery waste, bread and grains, coffee grounds and filters, tea bags and eggshells generated in on-site cafeterias as well as yard trimmings from the school grounds
- **"Browns"** (high-carbon material) – Non-recyclable paper, non-recyclable paperboard, paper towels from faculty rest rooms, leaves, clean sawdust and wood shavings from untreated wood

These materials CANNOT BE COMPOSTED at school ...

- **Meat, fish, poultry, meat by-products, bones, fats, grease/cooking oil* and dairy products** – Recycle or dispose of properly.
- **Evergreen leaves** (e.g., magnolia leaves), **coated paper** as well as **sawdust and shavings from painted and treated wood**
- **Plastics** (including bags, wrapping, ties and string)

* Although grease/cooking oil cannot be composted, commercial recycling services are available in some parts of the state. For more information, call 1-800-768-7348.

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Fast Food Restaurant!



- Think of the microbes in your compost pile as teenagers with voracious appetites.
- These microbes know that the sugar-rich **CARBON** gives them energy and the enzyme-rich **NITROGEN** gives them protein.

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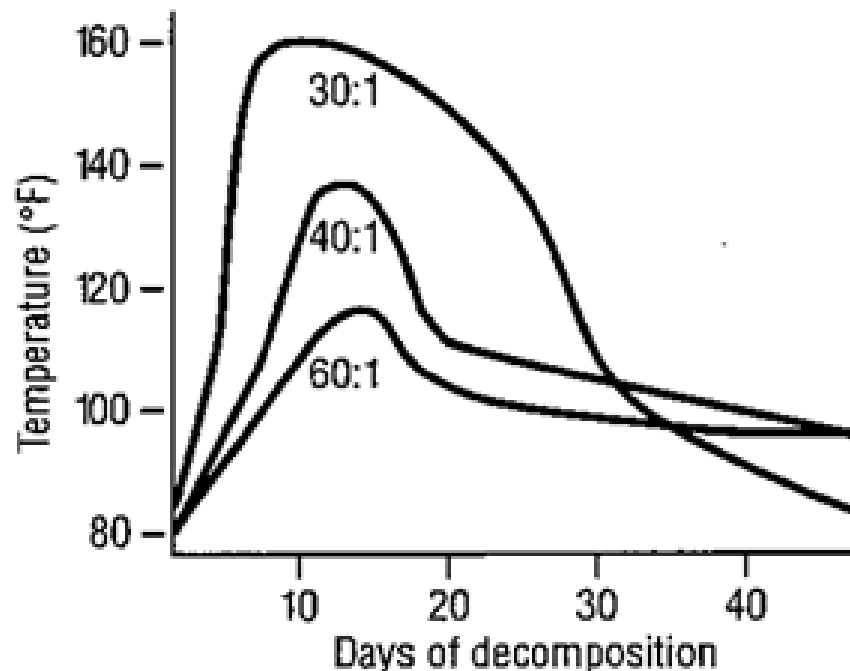


Carbon to Nitrogen ratios

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Carbon:Nitrogen Ratio Effects on Composting



Ratios for compost making

30 : 1 Carbon:Nitrogen

15 : 1 cubic feet

3 : 1 pounds



Browns
High in Carbon



Greens
High in Nitrogen

S.C. Solid Waste Regulations

Schools that compost solid waste, yard trimmings and land-clearing debris are exempt from permitting requirements as long as:

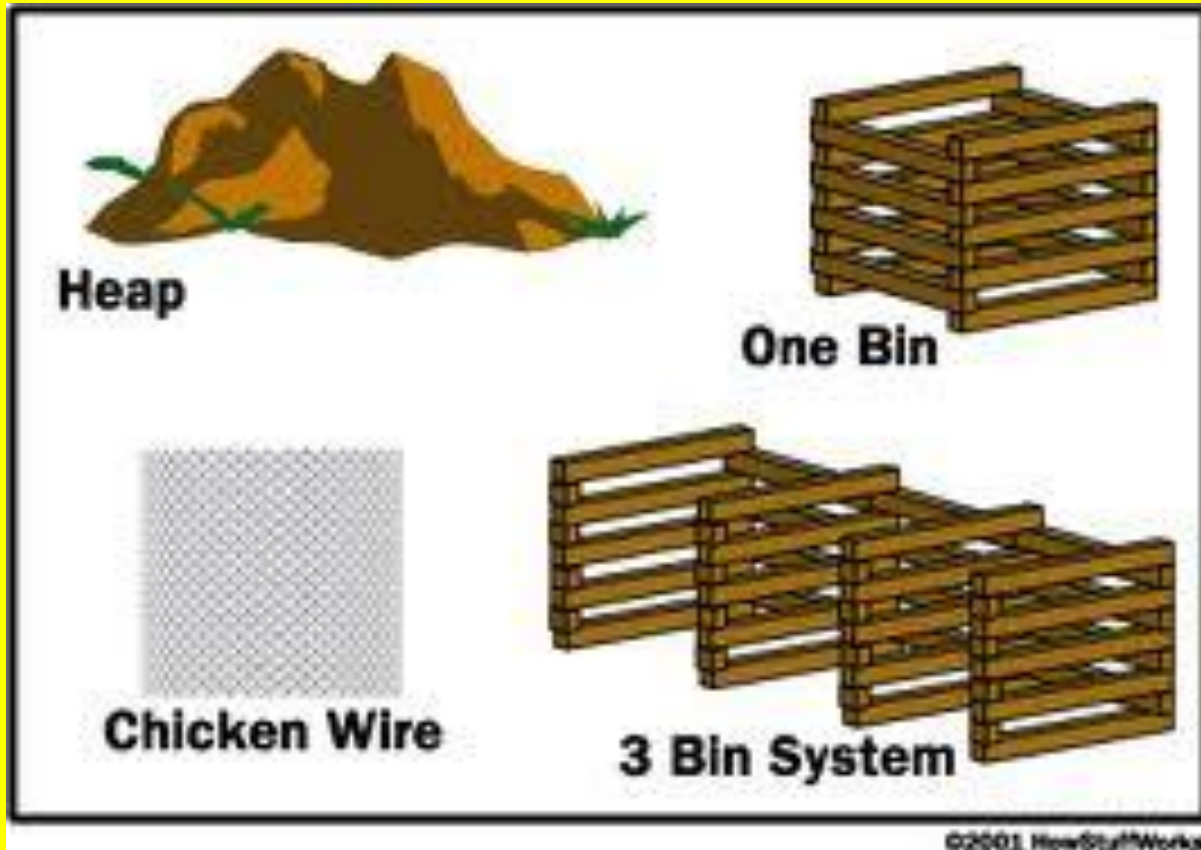
1. all of the material composted is generated on campus; and
2. the compost produced is used on campus.

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The Guide discusses....

- Daily Tasks (what to do daily during and after food scrap collection) (5 gallon buckets)
- As needed Tasks (what to do if compost it too wet; too dry)
- Site location for Compost Bin/Heap
- When compost is “ready” to use (using a “jar test” and your nose)
- Web resources (including videos)

Heap/Bin System Demonstration



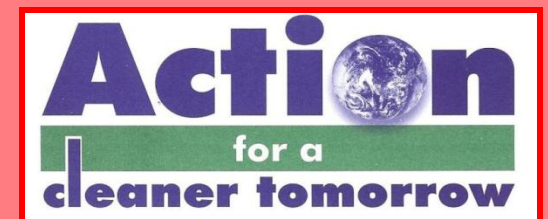
Bin System



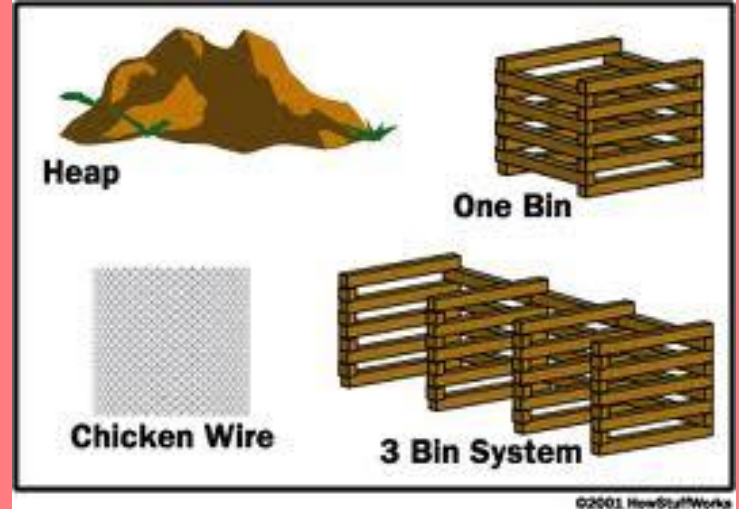
Can You Dig It? [pg. 39]

- Greens—grass clippings, fruits and vegetables
 - Nitrogen source [speed decomposition]
- Browns— dead leaves, paper towels, newspapers (best if shredded),
 - Carbon source [slows decomposition]
- Air (tossing compost increases air flow)
- Water (“moist as a sponge”)

Scientific inquiry!!



Heap/Bin System



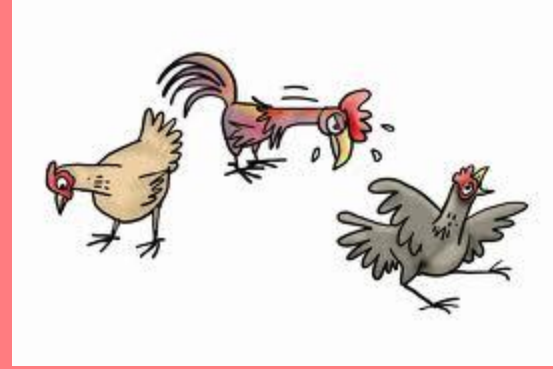
- “Can you dig it?” pg. 39
- “A Rotten Idea” pg. 107
- Benefits:
 - No specialized equipment
 - Very little odor
 - “lasagna” method (layers of Green and Brown)
- Drawbacks:
 - Must maintain nitrogen/carbon ration

Worm Composting



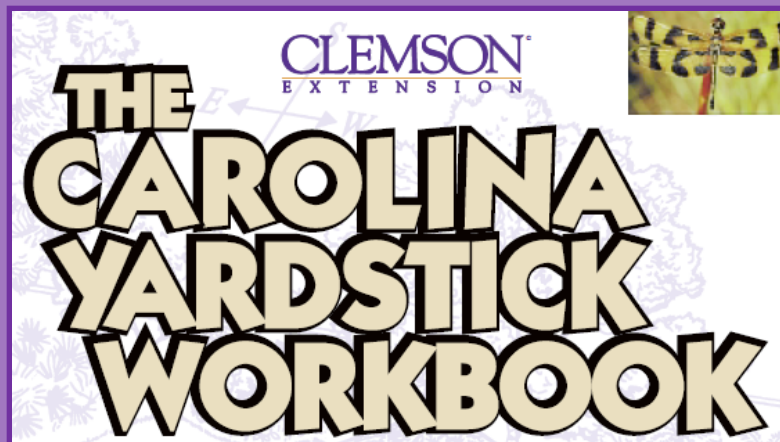
- “Can you dig it?” pg. 42
- Benefits:
 - Only need food scraps (not much “brown” needed)
 - Faster than heap/bin system
 - Can be done in the classroom (baggies in the closet)
- Drawbacks:
 - Need LARGE number of worms to handle school wide scraps

Chicken Composting



- Benefits:
 - Chickens are omnivores; meat and vegetative scraps can be included
 - Hens provide up to 5 eggs each per week
- Drawback:
 - Some municipalities do not allow poultry
 - Space and care (who feeds them over winter break?)

Compost Credit!!

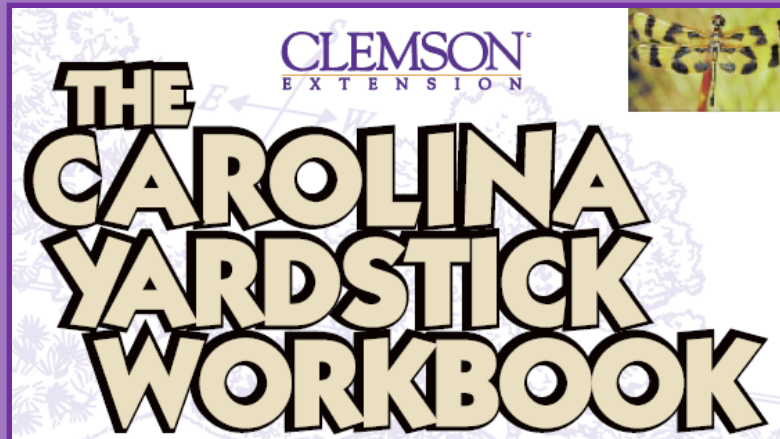


CAROLINA YARD ACTIONS

- ☐ Recycle grass clippings by leaving them on the lawn. Mulching lawn mowers or mulching blades are not necessary. Credit: 2 inches.
- ☐ Use fallen leaves and pine needles as mulch under trees and shrubs. They make an attractive, natural mulch and are free. (If you have more leaves than you can use, share them with a friend or neighbor.) Credit: 2 inches.
- ☐ Create and maintain a compost pile with kitchen scraps and yard waste (no animal products, please). Credit: 3 inches.

____ Total Inches

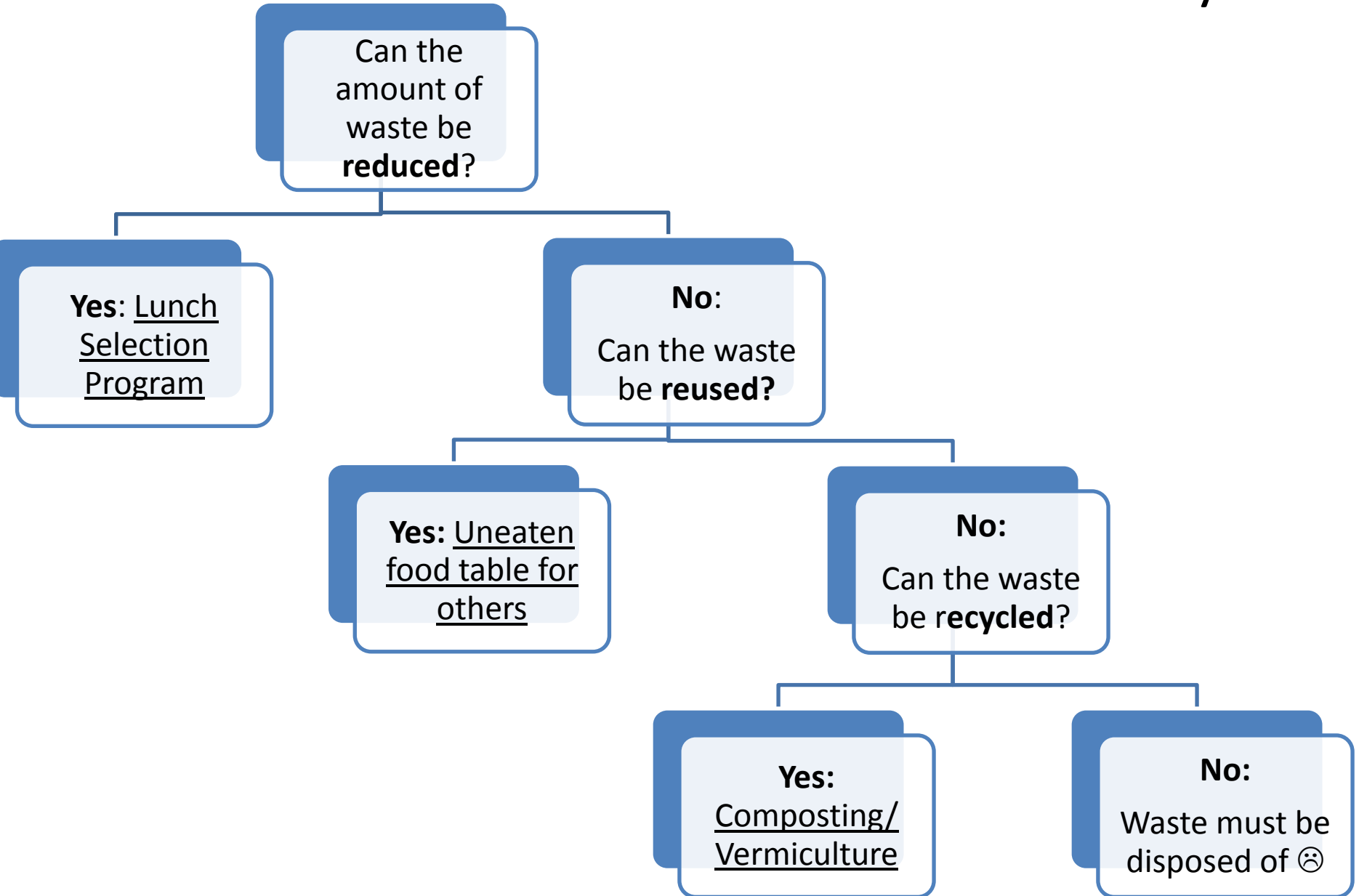
Lawn Considerations



CAROLINA YARD ACTIONS

- ☐ Determine your soil pH. Credit: 3 inches.
- ☐ Reduce the need for water, fertilizer, pesticides and pruning by using plants suited to the site conditions in your yard. Credit: 2 inches.
- ☐ Group plants according to their maintenance needs. For example, group drought-tolerant plants with low-water needs separately from lawn areas. Credit: 2 inches.
- ☐ Determine how much grass you need for children, pets and recreation. Use low-maintenance ground covers, shrubs, mulch or other porous surfaces where possible. Credit: 3 inches.

School Food Waste: Reduce Reuse Recycle



Banana Peel Blues page 109



Take me out to the Compost;

Take me out to the heap.

Grind me up in a food grinder;

I don't care if I'm chopped up to bits,

'cause it's root, root, root, for recycling;

If we compost we'll gain.

For it's two , four, six weeks I'm out to the old garden!!

